

Message Text

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21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 FSE-00 A-01 /017 W

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R 251441Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6417

INFO USOFFICE RFC PARIS

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 1036

DEPT FOR NEA/EX CONNOLLY FROM MCCORMICK

DEPT PLEASE PASS AID FOR SER/FM/RSO INFOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFIN, SY

SUBJ: RFC PARIS PAYROLLING DAMASCUS AID FOREIGN

SERVICE LOCALS

REF: (A) DAMASCUS 564, (B) PARIS 3194, (C) DAMASCUS 750,
(D) STATE 40828

1. IN REFTEL A EMBASSY EXPRESSED ITS DESIRE THAT
PAYROLLING FOR AID DAMASCUS FSL'S BE HANDLED BY
RFC. POST CONSIDERS THIS THE BEST PRACTICAL
ARRANGEMENT INASMUCH AS FSL'S OF STATE, USIA AND
DOD NOW ARE ALL PAYROLLED BY RFC PARIS AND IT SEEMS
TO MAKE LITTLE SENSE THAT OTHER ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD
BE MADE FOR THE LOCAL EMPLOYEES OF THE NEWLY OPENED
AID MISSION.

2. IN REF C, RFC PARIS INDICATES THAT IT HAS MADE
KNOWN ITS OBJECTION TO TAKING OVER DAMASCUS'S AID FSL'S,
IN A COMMUNICATION NOT RECEIVED BY THIS EMBASSY.
REF B ALSO INDICATES THAT THE DECISION
AS TO WHETHER RFC
WILL HANDLE THE AID FSL'S PAYROLL
RESTS WITH WASHINGTON.

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3. IN REF C, POST AGAIN EXPRESSED ITS OPINION THAT

HANDLING OF AID FSL'S PAYROLL BY RFC PARIS WAS MOST PRACTICAL AND ECONOMICAL ARRANGEMENT.

4. IN REF D AID/W HAS PLACED BALL BACK IN OUR COURT AND ADVISE THAT MATTER MUST BE SETTLED BETWEEN THIS EMBASSY AND RFC PARIS.

5. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT WE NOW HAVE A MEXICAN STANDOFF ON THIS MATTER WHICH WE WOULD LIKE RESOLVED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. FROM OUR VIEW, IT MAKES LITTLE SENSE TO SET UP A SEPARATE PAYROLLING ARRANGEMENT FOR ONE ELEMENT OF THE MISSION ESPECIALLY SINCE WE ARE ANXIOUS TO MAKE OUR JOINT ADMINISTRATION SERVICES OPERATION A SUCCESS. ALSO, WE HOPE TO KEEP ALL ELEMENTS OF THE MISSION SMALL FOR PURPOSES OF MAINTAINING AS LOW A PROFILE AS POSSIBLE. IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF YOU WOULD PERSONALLY LOOK INTO THIS MATTER AND FLUSH OUT WHATEVER OBSTACLE MAY PREVENT RESOLVING THE PROBLEM IN OUR FAVOR, I.E. TO HAVE RFC TAKE OVER PAYROLLING FOR THE DAMASCUS AID MISSION SO THAT THE LOCAL EMPLOYEES OF ALL AGENCIES REPRESENTED IN DAMASCUS ARE ADMINISTERED IN A SIMILAR AS MANNER AS POSSIBLE.
PELLETREAU

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976DAMASC01036
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760071-0811
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760216/aaaaanck.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 DAMASCUS 564, 76 PARIS 3194, 76 DAMASCUS 750
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: castelsl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 JUL 2004 by schwenja>; APPROVED <27 AUG 2004 by castelsl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RFC PARIS PAYROLLING DAMASCUS AID FOREIGN SERVICE LOCALS
TAGS: AFIN, SY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006